



Welcome to the Clark County Community Development e-News. We send this publication out once a month to announce the latest in what's happening. We will attempt to cover a broad range of topics that we hope will be of interest to you. We need your input! We welcome your comments about our news bulletin; and if you have topics you would like us to cover and we haven't, we'll do our best to accommodate you!★

Important home business date approaches

September 15, 2005, is the deadline for existing home business owners to apply for a home business review. This date represents the last day an owner can apply to document their business as it existed prior to the adoption of the county's Home Business Ordinance on June 15, 2004. Once the deadline has passed, all home business owners and operators will need to bring their operations into compliance with the revised standards established in the county's ordinance.

[Read the rest of the article.](#)★

I'm just not into public service

by Jim Muir, Chief Building Official

Public service, schmublik service – who cares? I hope I have your attention because now here's the clincher: I think "public service" is too low of a target. The public is so pre-disposed to assuming that "public

service" is tantamount to reverse service that we need to pick a better ideal.

I want to shoot for one of the popular private service models. There are many from which to choose. Some are recognized as clichés such as "sudden service," "same day service," "one-hour service" and "express service". Some are slogans like "have it your way", "you can do it – we can help", and "quality is job one". My personal goal is to be known organizationally for our inherent commitment

to service. Names like Les Schwab, Nordstrom, and Green Beret come to mind; names that evoke the very essence of service.

We are both blessed and cursed as a public organization that in private terms is known as a monopoly. We are cursed in that we have to take on all customers, both in number and disposition. We are blessed however, in that we can focus most all of our energies on service and very little on attracting customers. For our organization, "Who ya gonna call?" is a statement rather than a marketing question.

It is the Building Division's goal to gain a reputation as a can-do partner in an environment dedicated to service. We have codes that provide for safe structures that we are charged with implementing. In my view, it is all about implementation not enforcement.

So, I hope to report in the not too distant future that someone used Clark County in describing what its

August 2005

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like to get good service. Actually, this week, Libby Ramirez, an architect for ZGF, thanked Clark County for our commitment to the Legacy Hospital project – we are on our way!★

Permit reports available on web

The Community Development Department Web page offers complete status histories of active and inactive permits. Users must have the permit number.

The report shows the permit type, address, and the status of every action taken by the department. Copies of staff reports or applications are not available through this web page, however they are available elsewhere on the website.

The page includes building, development, engineering, fire, and planning permits. Code enforcement cases are not available.

The web link is www.clark.wa.gov/commdev/casehistory/index.asp

The web is an alternative to using the department's fax on demand system, telephone, or visiting the department to check the computers at the permit center.

For more information, contact Désirée de Monyé at (360) 397-2375 extension 4165.

County places ban on outdoor burning

The county has placed a ban on outdoor burning due to the fire hazard and forecast for continued warm, dry weather. All land clearing, residential, and silvicultural burning are restricted

until further notice. In Clark County, any burning permits that have been issued prior to the ban are no longer valid. However, these can be reissued or extended when the ban is lifted.

Recreational campfires are allowed in Clark County in improved fire pits in designated campgrounds such as those typically found in local, county, and state parks. On private land, campfires are permitted with the landowner's permission if built in an approved manner. Contact the Fire Marshal's Office if you have any questions. This ban does not extend to federally managed lands.★

July phone stats

Administration	98%
Animal Control	99%
Building	100%
Code Enforcement	99%
Customer Service	95%
Development Services	98%
Engineering Services	97%
Fire Marshal's Office	95%
Long Range Planning	99%
Department Total	98%★

New faces

Ken Hill has accepted a fire inspector position in the Fire Marshal's Office. Ken comes to us from Camas where he served as a senior fire fighter for 24 years. Ken has an Associates Degree in Fire Code Inspection and holds professional certifications as both a Uniform and International Fire Code Inspector.

Outside of work, Ken enjoys golfing, fly fishing and spending time with his family.



Quick clicks

- Comprehensive Plan Update
- Data Library
- Team Focus
- Department Calendar

Divisions

- Animal Control
- Building Division
- Code Enforcement
- Permit Center
- Development Services
- Engineering Services
- Fire Marshal's Office
- Long Range Planning



Belinda Walker has accepted the newly created office assistant III position in Permit Services. Belinda transferred to Community Development from the Purchasing Department where she was responsible for conducting FMS training and county-wide auditing. Outside the office, Belinda enjoys baseball, and snowboarding and is also an active volunteer in mentoring programs. Belinda has been married for 19 years and together they share two children.



Gary Becker has accepted the structural engineer position in the Building Division. Gary, a PE licensed in four states, brings an extensive professional engineering background to Clark County.

When not working, Gary enjoys playing baseball and chasing after his children and spending time with his family.

Svetlana Popov has accepted an office assistant II position in the Permit Services Division. Svetlana has four years of experience as credit union teller and most recently completed a one-month, temporary assignment in the Building Division.



In her personal life, Svetlana stays

active outdoors hiking, camping, playing tennis and swimming. She is also an active church member. Svetlana is the only daughter in a family of seven boys, but insists she was never spoiled!

Nick Kindel has accepted the planning technician position in Development Services. Prior to joining Clark County, Nick was employed with the City of Salem Planning Department where he was responsible for land partitions, pre-app, zoning adjustments, and legal lot determinations. Nick has a Bachelors Degree in Planning and Geography from Miami University.★



Staff changes



Marilee McCall has been promoted to Office Assistant III. Marilee will leave Engineering Services and begin her new position with Long Range Planning on September 6. Marilee describes the Engineering team as "one of the best teams she has ever had the pleasure to work with", and she is looking forward to building on that experience with the Long Range staff.

After nearly 3 years in Long Range Planning, **Diana Hintz** has transferred the Building Division where she will fill the office assistant III position. Diana is looking forward to facing new challenges and enhancing her knowledge of the building industry.★



What's On TV Tonight?

There is a lot on CVTV (channel 23) about Community Development. For example, you can watch the animal control, land use, and code enforcement hearings, as well as the county's Planning Commission. To see the complete schedule click here: www.cvtv.org ★

Expanding our audience

Do you know others who would benefit from this information? Any list serves that would be appropriate for us to post this on? On the other hand, if you would like to be taken off our e-mailing list, just let us know. Contact Désirée at desiree.demoneye@clark.wa.gov.★



Red Barrons claim title

Congratulations goes out to the Red Barrons – winners of the 2005 Vancouver Parks and Recreation Division 2 Softball Championship. The Red Barrons blew away the competition with a final record of 12-2.

Team members include these folks from Community Development: John Skukanec, Bryan Mattson, Mark Hess, Kevin Pridemore, Michele Wall, Boe Richards, and Melissa Curtis. ✨

ComDev in the news

County growth appeals denied.

The Columbian 8-23-05

<http://www.columbian.com/news/localNews/08232005news3963.cfm>

County combats noise in country.

The Columbian 8-17-05

<http://www.columbian.com/news/localNews/08172005news3750.cfm>

County commissioners expand limits for potential urban growth.

The Columbian 08-02-05

<http://www.columbian.com/news/localNews/08022005news3136.cfm>

Blaze destroys portable classroom

The Columbian 08-02-05

<http://www.columbian.com/news/localNews/08022005news3113.cfm>

Shut down in Sifton

The Columbian 08-01-05

<http://www.columbian.com/business/businessNews/08012005news3084.cfm>

Hot housing market has sellers grinning

The Columbian 08-01-05

<http://www.columbian.com/news/localNews/08012005news3088.cfm>

